Old pension scheme for Para-Military Forces

†3720. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to provide pension to Para-Military Forces Personnel under the old pension scheme;

(b) if so, by when these personnel will start getting pension as per the old pension scheme;

(c) whether other employees' associations have also raised a demand for implementation of the old pension scheme; and

(d) if so, Government's decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Personnel of Para Military Force who have been appointed on or before 31.12.2003 continue to get pension under CCS (Penson) Rules 1972. Those appointed on or after 01.01.2004 are covered under New Pension Scheme. Representations received in the context in respect of the personnel of Para Military Forces are separately under examination.

(c) and (d) This issue has been raised in the meeting of Standing Committee of the National Council (Joint Consultative Machinery) by the staff side. It has been explained from the Government side that it would not be possible to withdraw or disband the New Pension Scheme.

Hike in penalties for traffic violation in Delhi

3721. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi High Court, *vide* one of its judgements, has asked Delhi Police to launch a drive to check traffic violations in Delhi from 9th April, 2007;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Court has enhanced the penalties

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

for vaious traffic offences, wherein the enhanced money has to be collected as cost for implementation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government intend to amend the Act to increase the penalty in the Act itself?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) The Delhi High Court *vide* their order dated 26.3.2007 in Writ Petition (C) No 16565/2006 titled Court on its motion Versus Union of India and others and Writ Petition (Crl) No. 207/2004 titled Court on its motion Versus State, *inter-alia*, issued the following directions:

> "Wherever any driver or any vehicle including a two-wheeler is challaned by the traffic police and/or any other competent authority, he shall be liable to pay costs of Rs. 500/- for each offence committed by him in addition to the composition fee payable in terms of Section 200 of the Motor Vehicles Act or any other enabling provision of law to that effect. Wherever, the challan is tried by the court of competent jurisdiction, it shall consider the question of imposing costs depending on the facts of each case and would excercise such discretion in accordance with settled principles of law. For example, for committing the offence of jumping the red light, the offender shall pay compounding fee equivalent to the fine under the Section *i.e.* Rs. 100/- and Rs. 500/- as costs, thus, totaling to Rs. 600/-."
>
> "These directions would come into force forthwith. However, we direct the enforcement agencies to educate the drivers of vehicles, public and/or all concerned persons regarding implementaton of these directions atleast for a period of 2 weeks. The fine/cost indicated in the judgement and other action in accordance with law penal or otherwise shall become effective from 9th April, 2007. Thereafter, we would expect the enforcement agencies as well as the Delhi Traffic Police to implement these directions with great sincerity and vigour."

(e) Yes, Sir. The Government is in the process of making amendments to the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 which, *inter alia*, include provision for upward revision of penalties for various traffic offences.

National Citizen/Smart Card

3722. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering seriously the introduction of multipurpose unique identification National Citizen/Smart Card, which would help the citizens, receive a number of benefits and services like making payments, electronic voting, obtaining ration card, passport, driving licence etc. in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the new cost effective technology in use in other parts of the country in respect of comprehensive National Citizen/Smart Card; and

(d) the Government's observations for adopting such new innovative and cost effective technology in the country, with the active support of IITs, private sector, for introducing the multi-purpose National Citizen/Smart Card in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) The Government propose to issue Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNICs) to the citizens of the country. The main purpose of MNICs is to provide a credible individual identification system for improving the security conditions and to help the e-governance by improving the citizen-Government interface.

(c) and (d) The proposed identity card is a smart card having a microprocessor chip. This is a secure card for which recommendation was made by the Technical Committee constituted by Government of India having representatives from National Informatics Centre (NTC), IIT Kanpur, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI) and Electronics Corporation India Limited (ECIL), Intelligence Bureau (IB) etc.